

# MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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## Income Tax Man Is Coming To Mexico

He Estimates There Will Be 300 Income Taxpayers In Audrain County—Begin Your Figuring.

In a communication received by The Mexico Message Collector of Internal Revenue, George H. Moore, announces that a federal income tax officer will be sent into this county on January 2. He will have his office in the Court House in Mexico and will be there every day until January 26 to help persons subject to the income tax make out their returns without any cost to them for his services.

How many income-taxpayers will there be in Audrain county? If you can guess how many married persons living with wife or husband will have net incomes of \$2,000 or over and how many unmarried persons will have net incomes of \$1,000 or over this year then you know. The Collector of Internal Revenue estimates that there will be 300 taxpayers in this county.

Returns of income for the year 1917 must be made on forms provided for the purpose before March 1, 1918. Because a good many people don't understand the law and won't know how to make out their returns the government is sending in this expert to do it for them. But the duty is on the taxpayer to make himself known to the government. If he doesn't make return as required before March 1st he may have to pay a penalty ranging from \$20 to \$1,000, pay a fine or go to jail. So if you don't want to take chances on going to jail you better call on the income tax man. If you are not sure about being subject to the tax better ask and make sure. Whether you see the income tax man or not you must make return if subject to tax. Of course persons residing in other counties may, if they want to, come and see the income tax man who will be at Mexico.

The Collector suggests that everybody start figuring up now his income and expenses so as to be ready with the figures when the expert arrives. Expenses, however, don't mean family expenses, money used to pay off the principal of a debt, new machinery, buildings, or anything like that. They mean what you spend in making your money—interest, taxes paid, hired help, amount paid for goods sold, seed, stock bought for feeding, rent (except for your dwelling), etc. Income includes about every dollar you got.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 24.—It will require a small army of men to take the income tax returns of persons subject to the new law.

Collector of Internal Revenue George H. Moore today announced that officers will start from his headquarters on January 1st and on January 2nd everyone of them will be on the job assigned him, to meet the people and help them make out their income tax returns. The officer assigned to Audrain county is due to arrive on January 2nd, to remain until January 26th, both dates inclusive. He will be at the Mexico Court House every day.

"It will be well for every unmarried person whose net income for 1917 is \$1,000 or over, and every married person living with wife or husband whose net income for 1917 is \$2,000 or over to call on the income tax man and learn whether or not he has any tax to pay." Collector Moore said today. "The person subject to tax who doesn't make return in the time prescribed is going to regret it. The Government

## THE COLONELS ARE LICKING THEIR PLATES.

That Young Man Arthur Harrison Jones Again—Mr. Zaugg To Move To Colorado.

The two paragraphs below are taken from the Centralia Guard. Mr. Zaugg and daughter, referred to, formerly lived in Mexico. Mr. Zaugg is the father of Mrs. S. L. Robison of this city:

Godfrey Zaugg and daughter, Miss Hattie, are contemplating leaving for Colorado Springs after the first of the year, where they may make their future home. Dr. Fred Zaugg is located at that place, the move would bring the family together. We know we express the sentiments of all their acquaintances when we say we should regret to lose these good citizens from the Prairie Queen.

According to the Mexico Message Arthur Jones of that locality gathered up all the old gunny sacks that had held mixed feeds, fertilizer, etc., on his father's place and sold them for \$52.59. Then he gathered up what other old sacks there were about the place and sold them for \$96.81. If we had that young man on our city dump he would soon have a Ford factory at our very doors. And, by the way, we notice some of the Colonels of the old order in Brother Beal's town are licking their plates after each meal to save the waste. That's the spirit, and besides, they get what Huck Finn called the flavor of the juices that had swapped about.

## 'T WAS ALL A MISTAKE THERE WAS NO SHOOTING.

From two or three sources The Message has heard the rumor in Mexico that a soldier out at Camp Funston had shot his superior officer. We guess the rumor must have come from Middletown, Mo., as Chips of that little city last week contained the following paragraph bearing upon a similar report:

The report which was current here passed for fact on the streets last Wednesday to the effect that Earl Dawson of Corso vicinity had been court-martialed and shot for shooting his captain has not a thread of truth for foundation. Hubert Farmer who was here on a furlough at the time returned to Camp Funston since and has seen and talked with Private Dawson and writes back that Mr. Dawson is well and hearty and doing fine. Chips is glad to get these facts to its readers and is happy to learn that Private Dawson is looked upon by his comrades as a good soldier and fine fellow.

The Message extends the time for \$1.00 subscriptions a short time to give the few who were hindered from getting in during November.

Roy Briarly was home on a short furlough from Camp Funston. He is looking fat and healthy. He is one of the quartermasters and says he gets his men thru on exactly 39 28-100 cents a day, and all have the best of grub, too.

O. C. Dillard and family are arranging to move to Baird, Fla., in a few days.

will get after all income tax slackers.

"There's hardly a business man, merchant or professional man who won't have to make return of income. Farmers, as a class, will have to pay the tax. The safe thing to do is for every person who had a total income of \$1,000 or \$2,000, as the case may be, and who is not sure about what deductions the law allows him, to play it safe by calling on the income tax man.

## Christmas Meditations

Put into rhyme by a member of the Rush Hill Methodist Sunday School.

We celebrate today our Savior's birth,  
The greatest King that has trod the earth,  
A King who was in a manger born—  
How we love to think of that glorious morn,  
When the angels to the shepherds on Judea's plains  
The glad tidings of good-will and peace proclaimed.  
And away off to the East, so far,  
Wise men beheld the Bethlehem Star,  
And, following it, they to Bethlehem went,  
Taking to the Christ-babe gifts—gold, myrrh, frankincense.  
This beautiful Christ-story has often been told,  
It is the one sweet story that never grows old.  
A manger-born babe in a Bethlehem town,  
The King of all Kings, wearing a thorn-piercing crown,  
A sinless life, a life free from all dross,  
A resistless death on Calvary's cross.  
A stable-birth, at the inn no room,  
Buried by a few in another's tomb;  
The angels rolling the big stone away,  
Coming back to earth forty days to stay;  
Proving himself Christ, risen from the dead,  
Just as the prophets of Him had said.  
Preparing his followers for Pentecost Day,  
Bidding them in the upper room to tarry, fast and pray,  
While only a few of His disciples stood by,  
It being expedient He ascended on high.  
Christ's birth, life, death, resurrection, ascending above,  
All these are the gifts of a God of love.  
Most two thousand years since Christ came to earth,  
Yet we today are celebrating His birth.  
Why is it this Christ-life story still lives today?  
Because of a life lived for that which does not decay;  
A life not spent for wealth or earthly gain,  
But a life with self crucified and slain;  
A life not seeking power and worldly fame,  
But a life of meekness, with true service its aim;  
A life that to the friendless was a friend;  
A life that was faithful to the end;  
A life that was gentle, loving, pure, sublime;  
A life that was an example to all mankind;  
A life with no time for society, cards, and social game—  
Such things as these would put Christ to shame.  
He didn't live dishonest, cheat, or ever tell a lie;  
For to keep up with the world in appearance Christ didn't try.  
No time had He to study the fashion or latest style,  
About His Father's business He was busy all the while.  
The record tells us much of His birth, life, death, resurrection  
But it never says once He bet on the election.  
In all points was He tempted like we of today,  
But from the straight, narrow path He ne'er turned away.  
Ever caring for the poor, sick, sad, those in distress,  
Christ's only mission was to uplift and bless.  
Despised, rejected, suffering agony and woes,  
Yet, "Father, forgive them," He said, of His cruellest foes.  
This Christ-life story will ne'er cease to live,  
All Christians one like it should give;  
All children of God must to Cavalry go,  
Each must forgive his every foe.  
As we pay honor today to this Prince of Peace,  
Millions are crying when will war cease?  
Must we sacrifice all our young boys and men  
Before this awful, terrible, cruel war will end?  
Will drenching the soil with their precious gore  
Bring conditions better than they were before?  
And for what and why did this war begin?  
Ah, it is but the reaping of sowing sin.  
When the whole world accepts the King of Kings,  
That—and that alone—can world-peace bring.  
When men on earth enthrone Christ in their hearts,  
Then brother to brother will good-will and peace impart.  
May we today, as a Sunday School, then  
Get a new vision of the Star of Bethlehem;  
Like the Wise Men, follow it till it leads us to Christ.  
Then give to Him the one precious gift—our life.

## SURPRISED US ALL.

Ex-Sheriff William Barnett Becomes A Benedict—Kept Wedding

A Secret.

Former Sheriff Wm. Barnett died off to Moberly a couple of weeks ago and secured a marriage license and then in this city at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mannie Trimble, on the 11th inst., was married to Miss Louella G. Howard of Topeka, Kansas, Judge R. B. Hooton officiating.

Mr. Barnett is a successful farmer and is most popular among a large circle of friends all over the county. His bride is no less popular, being well known here.

All concerned, witnesses and all, were pledged to secrecy and the wed-

ding was kept mum until a few days ago.

Here's wishing the happy couple long life and happiness.

Frank Owings, who is in training at Great Lakes Camp, came home for a six days furlough to visit his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Boatman. Frank is learning the art of the marksman. His best score is 97 out of one hundred shots.

Miss Helen Howell, who is attending Warrensburg Normal, is here to spend the holidays with her father's family, J. W. Howell. Miss Howell will graduate in a few months and will get a life certificate to teach.

Jesse Gibbs is home for the holidays from William Jewell College.

## STATE TO ASSIST COUNTIES IN BUILDING DIRT ROADS.

The State Highway Department has requested The Message to publish the fact that state and federal aid can be obtained to pay one-half the cost of grading and otherwise improving earth or dirt roads.

"In North Missouri," the letter from the state department declares, "the opinion seems to be general that the state and federal money will only be available to pay for the construction of brick, concrete, bituminous, or some other type of high-class paving. This is not correct. In this connection the United States, office of Public Roads issued the following instruction: 'States may submit for approval any kind of road, even an earth road, and approval will be given if the construction be substantial in character, suitable for traffic needs and meets the terms of the federal act.'

This matter was discussed at length at the recent convention of state highway officials held at Richmond, Virginia, where it developed that more than 90 per cent of the roads to be improved during the next year or two will be of earth construction.

The high cost of materials, the inability of railroads to furnish cars when needed and the scarcity of labor are important factors, while there is another advantage in having a sub-grade settle well before the surfacing material is applied. The State Highway Department, in co-operating with counties in the construction of properly graded earth roads, will, of course, proceed on the theory that the roads are to be hard-surfaced as soon as conditions will permit, and will require a pledge of this character from county, township or district officials."

This is good news; not only in North Missouri, but all over the State, and this paper is glad to have an opportunity to pass this information along the line.

Audrain county should get busy by calling upon the State Highway Board for our share of State and Federal funds.

## MUST ANSWER IN

### THE CIRCUIT COURT.

The three men—C. W. Ledford, Eddie Coleman and Roy McCune, accused of assaulting and robbing H. P. Middleton of Vandalla, had their preliminary hearing last week, pleading not guilty. They were bound over to the Circuit Court.

## BEREA LETTER.

Clyde Sharp and wife and children of St. Joe are the guests of P. R. Cauthorn and family for the holidays. Mrs. Joe Jones and children of Mexico are spending the holidays at the farm.

Forrest and Will Berrey entertained with a dinner Christmas day. Richard Baker, wife and son visited at Ira Mayer's Sunday.

The Molino Sunday School made a nice contribution to the Armenian Relief Fund Sunday. Miss Ruth Cook addressed the school.

Mrs. Almer Mundy has been confined to her home for a few days by an attack of grippe.

Miss Fannie Edge and Francis Criger visited Mrs. Maggie Criger of near Strother first of the week.

Marvin Emmons and family visited in the Strother neighborhood at the first of the week.

## MEXICO SAVINGS BANK

50th Year in Business  
Capital Stock \$100,000

R. M. WHITE, President.  
J. R. JESSE, Cashier.

## Sneed School District "Over The Top"

Enrolls 100 Per Cent For The Red Cross—High Hill And Botts Make Fine Records Also.

A number of Audrain county communities "went over the top" in Red Cross subscriptions.

Sneed School, Miss Ruth Cook, teacher, leading the drive, enrolled every man, woman and child in the district—it was 100 per cent in dollar memberships. We have not heard of a community anywhere else in the State coming up to it.

The next place in the county next to Sneed is High Hill District, southeast of Centralia. Hugh Miller tells The Message that there are 36 families in High Hill District, and there is a flag in every window and each family subscribed from \$1.00 to \$5.00. That's fine indeed.

District No. 17, the Botts School, also did fine. The following committee was in charge: Mrs. Gray Wilson, Miss Beulah Crawford and Miss Henrietta Fisher.

The following were among the subscribers:

W. H. McCue, Mrs. W. H. McCue, Gray Wilson, Mrs. Gray Wilson, T. C. Botts, Carrie V. Botts, Mary H. Botts, Elizabeth Botts, Frances Botts, Theodore Cauthorn, Mrs. Theodore Cauthorn, Frank Cauthorn, D. C. Cauthorn, Andrew Cauthorn, Mrs. Andrew Cauthorn, Mrs. Hofriehter, J. B. Wilson, Mrs. J. B. Wilson, Miss Lillie Hofriehter, R. L. Helzer, Miss Henrietta Fisher, Geo. Wilson, Mrs. Geo. Wilson, H. T. Powell, Miss Margaret Powell, Colman Elliott, Miss Lillie Elliott, Mildred Glover, Oliver Glover, Mrs. A. J. Cauthorn, Mrs. H. E. Hopkins, J. H. Botts, Miss Beulah Crawford, Mrs. W. H. Elliott, W. H. Elliott and Miss Hattie Hofriehter.

As you go along the streets of Mexico you will notice, too, that there is a Red Cross sign at almost every front window or door. Besides signing up in the Christmas Red Cross drive there has been done some very fine practical work along other lines. You ought to know about it, and here goes:

The Mexico Chapter of the Red Cross has made and shipped to division headquarters 498 garments, with 100 more almost completed. These included pajamas, bath robes, surgeons' gowns, hospital bed-shirts, leggings, bed-socks, and hot-water and ice-bag covers.

The chapter has made and shipped 3,400 surgical dressings.

Twenty-eight sweaters, four pairs of mitts, two mufflers, two helmets, (five of these garments were knitted by the North Salt River branch of the Mexico Chapter) and 31 sweaters, two pairs of socks are in process of making.

All this represents an outlay of about \$500.00. The amount received from the Orpheum benefit \$60.00 from the Orpheum Benefit \$60.00 and from the Community Dinner Saturday \$ , all of which, it is understood, is to be used in the work rooms of the chapter.

The Daughters of the Confederacy have also made a record worthy of praise, in their war knitting. They have been doing work for the Navy since last June, and in two shipments have sent 31 sweaters, 34 pairs of mitts, 23 mufflers, a total of 88 knitted garments.

Miss Katherine Welch is in Columbia for the vacation.

Miss Inger Jacobsen is spending the Christmas holidays in her home in Chicago.